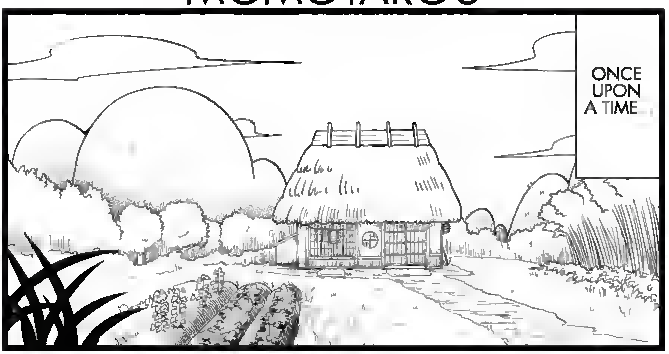
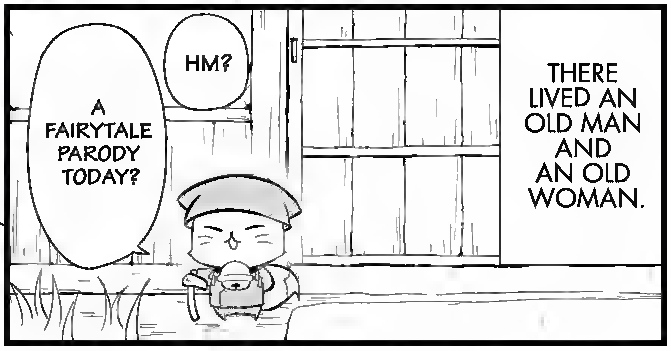
GUGURE!
KOKKURISAN

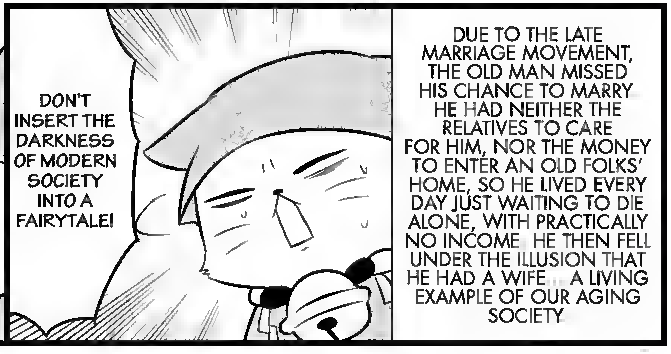
HAUNTING 96:
GUGURE! MOMOTARO-SAN

MOMOTAROU


ONCE UPON A TIME

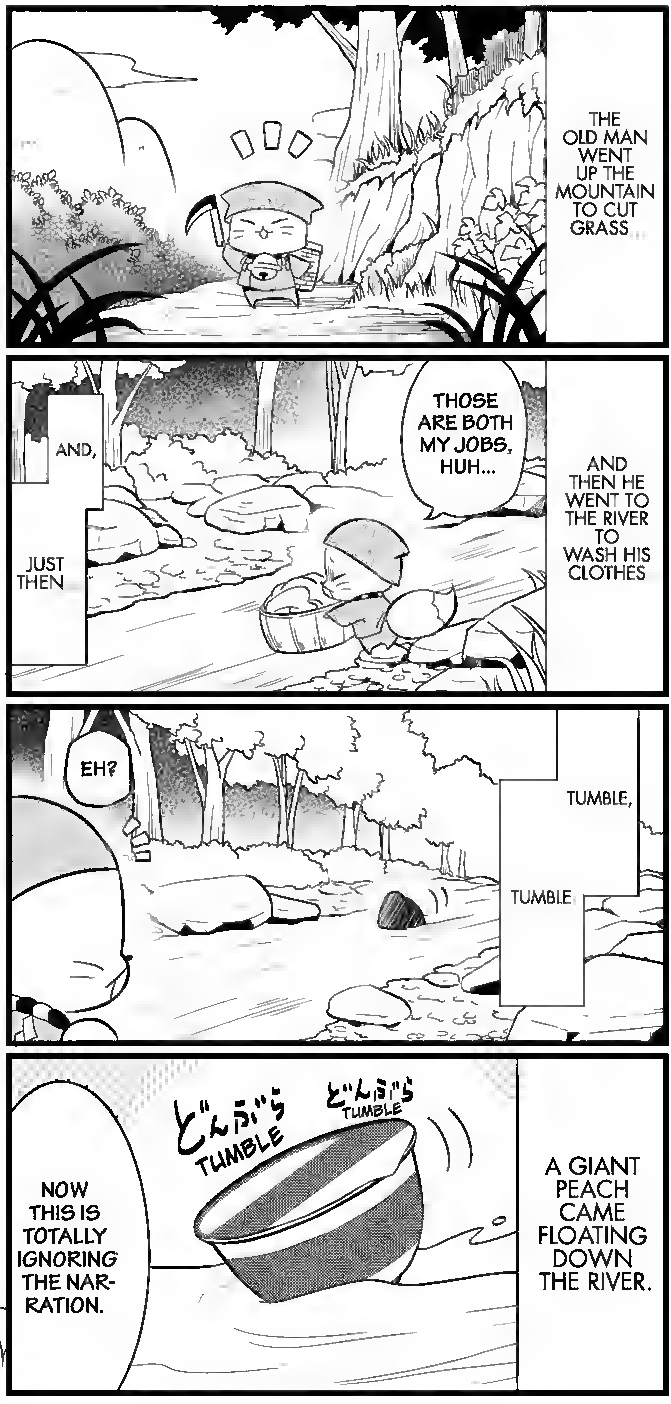

HM?
A FAIRYTALE PARODY TODAY?
THERE LIVED AN OLD MAN AND AN OLD WOMAN.

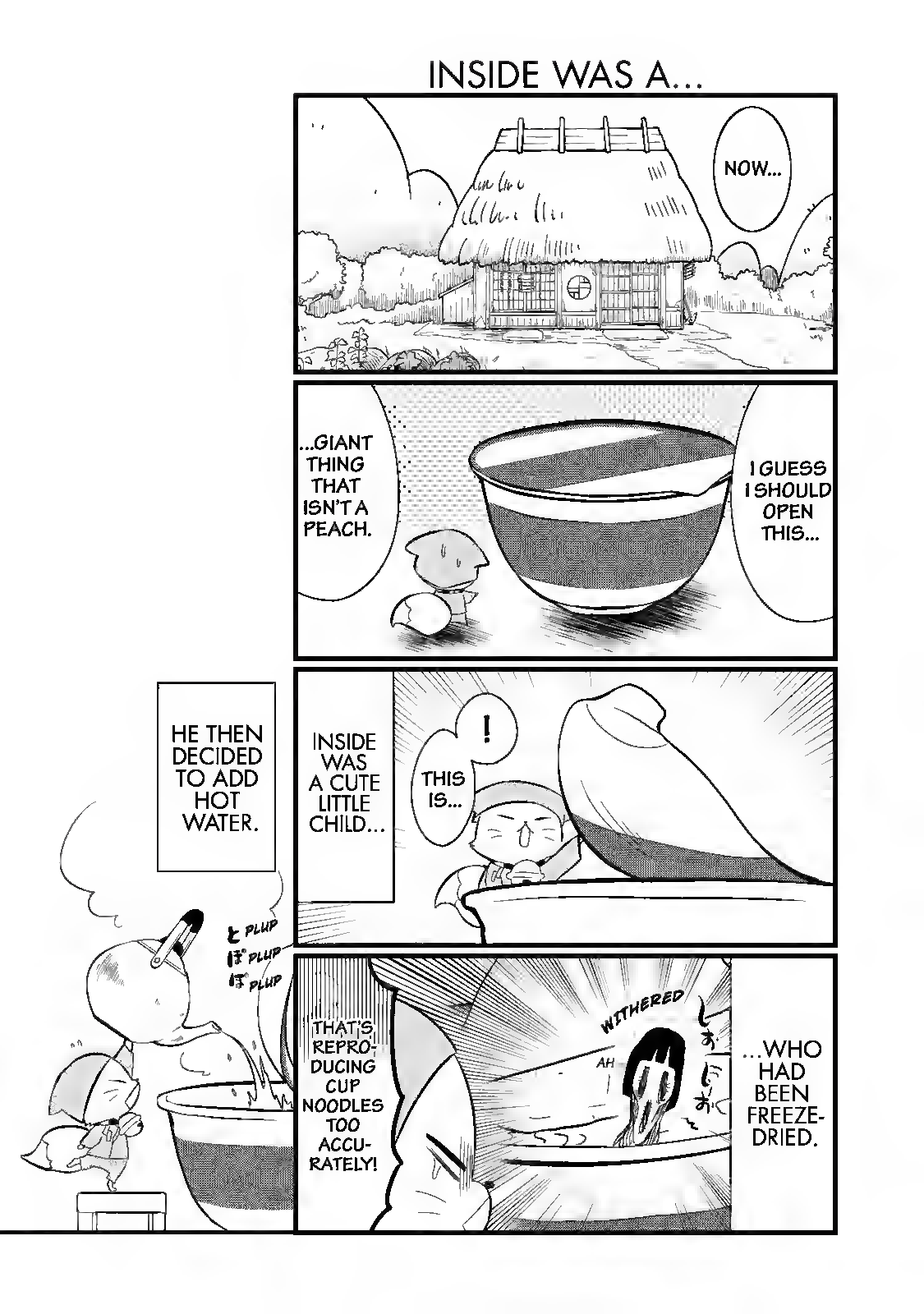
HUH?
OR AT LEAST, THAT WAS THE OLD MAN'S DELUSION.


DON'T INSERT THE DARKNESS OF MODERN SOCIETY INTO A FAIRYTALE!
DUE TO THE LATE MARRIAGE MOVEMENT, THE OLD MAN MISSED HIS CHANCE TO MARRY HE HAD NEITHER THE RELATIVES TO CARE FOR HIM, NOR THE MONEY TO ENTER AN OLD FOLKS' HOME, SO HE LIVED EVERY DAY JUST WAITING TO DIE ALONE, WITH PRACTICALLY NO INCOME. HE THEN FELL UNDER THE ILLUSION THAT HE HAD A WIFE... A LIVING EXAMPLE OF OUR AGING SOCIETY

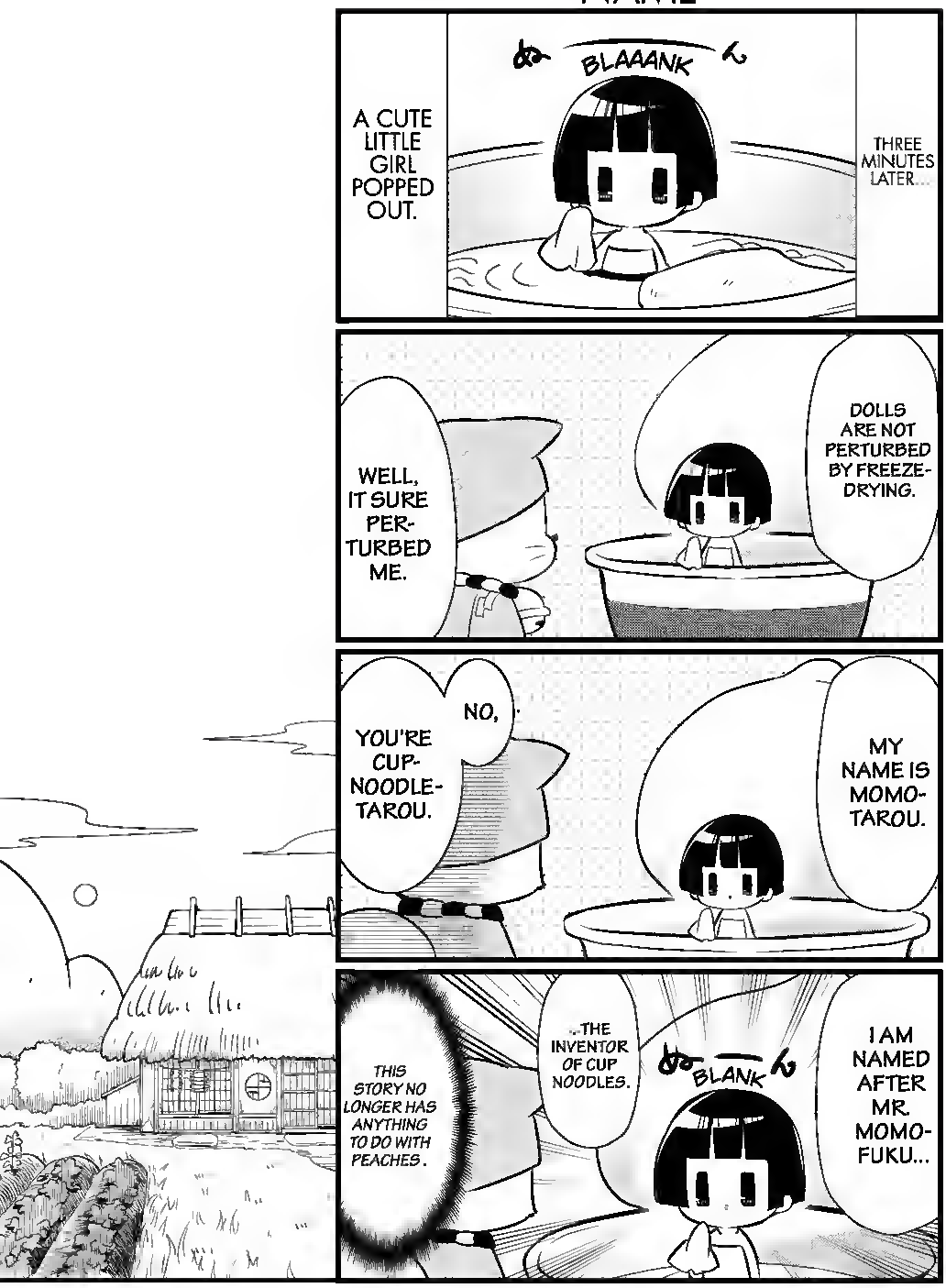
ALSO, I'M ONLY 25!
THE OLD MAN HAS STARTED TO GO SENILE AND DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HOW OLD HE IS
FUME
FUME

A GIANT PEACH?


THE OLD MAN WENT UP THE MOUNTAIN TO CUT GRASS...
AND, JUST THEN
THOSE ARE BOTH MY JOBS, HUH...
AND THEN HE WENT TO THE RIVER TO WASH HIS CLOTHES
EH?
TUMBLE, TUMBLE
どんぶらTUMBLE
どんぶらTUMBLE
A GIANT PEACH CAME FLOATING DOWN THE RIVER.
NOW THIS IS TOTALLY IGNORING THE NARRATION.
I GUESS I'LL TAKE IT HOME FOR NOW.


INSIDE WAS A...
NOW...
...GIANT THING THAT ISN'T A PEACH.
I GUESS I SHOULD OPEN THIS...
INSIDE WAS A CUTE LITTLE CHILD...
!
THIS IS...
HE THEN DECIDED TO ADD HOT WATER.
とぽぽぽ PLUP PLUP PLUP
THAT'S REPRODUCING CUP NOODLES TOO ACCURATELY!
WITHERED
AH
...WHO HAD BEEN FREEZE-DRIED.

NAME


A CUTE LITTLE GIRL POPPED OUT.
BLAAANK
THREE MINUTES LATER...
WELL, IT SURE PER-TURBED ME.
DOLLS ARE NOT PERTURBED BY FREEZE-DRYING.
NO,
YOU'RE CUP-NOODLE-TAROU.
MY NAME IS MOMO-TAROU.
THIS STORY NO LONGER HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH PEACHES.
...THE INVENTOR OF CUP NOODLES.
BLANK
I AM NAMED AFTER MR. MOMO-FUKU...

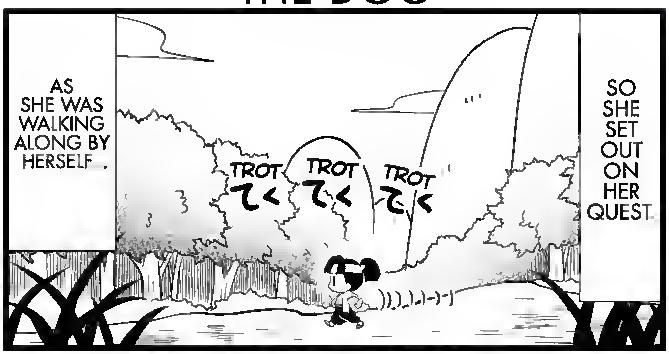
SHE GREW BIGGER

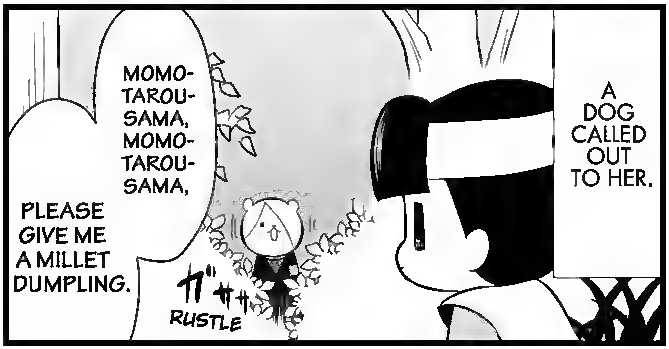
...MOMOTAROU GREW QUICKLY
わきゃきゃきゃきゃ
WITH THE OLD MAN'S LOVING CARE...
WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING THAT DANGEROUS?
FWIP
KOHI-
I MEAN, MOMOTAROU WILL YOU GO TO ONIGASHIMA AND FIGHT THE DEMONS THERE?
YOU CAN LIVE HERE WITH ME FOREVER!
FLOOF
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT!
STAY
RUN
THE OLD MAN LOOKS AT YOU AS IF HE WANTS YOU TO CARE FOR HIM IN HIS OLD AGE.
I DID NOT REALIZE YOUR DEMENTIA WAS THIS BAD...
BESIDES, I'M STILL A YOUNG MAN!
FLOOF
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
YOU'RE SO HEARTLESS!
I WILL GO FIGHT THE DEMONS
STAY
RUN

MILLET DUMPLINGS

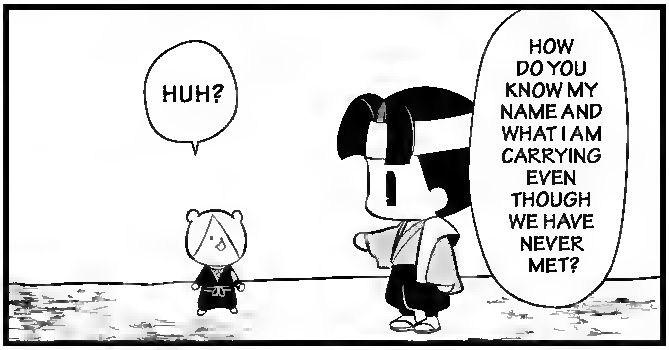
WAIT, MOMO-TAROU.
WELL, THEN, OFF I GO.
TA-DA
MILLET DUMPLINGS
THEY'RE MY SPECIAL MILLET DUMP-LINGS.
TAKE THESE WITH YOU.
USE THESE TO MAKE FRIENDS.
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO LOOK FOR REALITY IN FAIRY-TALES!
THE NOTION OF MAKING ONE'S LIFE DEPEND ON A SINGLE DUMPLING IS NOT GROUNDED IN REALITY.
THE WAY TO TRULY MOVE PEOPLE'S HEARTS IS WITH REAL MONEY.
I DIDN'T RAISE YOU TO SOUND LIKE A CORRUPT POLITICIAN!

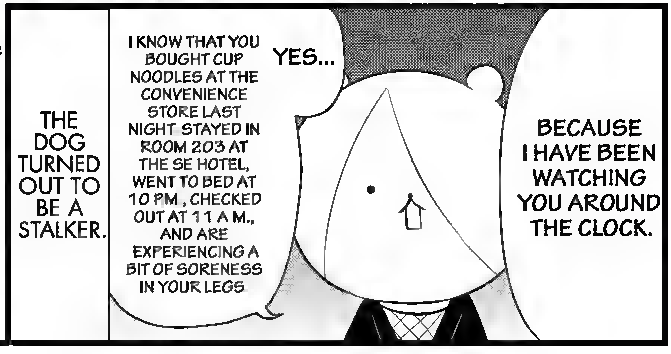
THE DOG

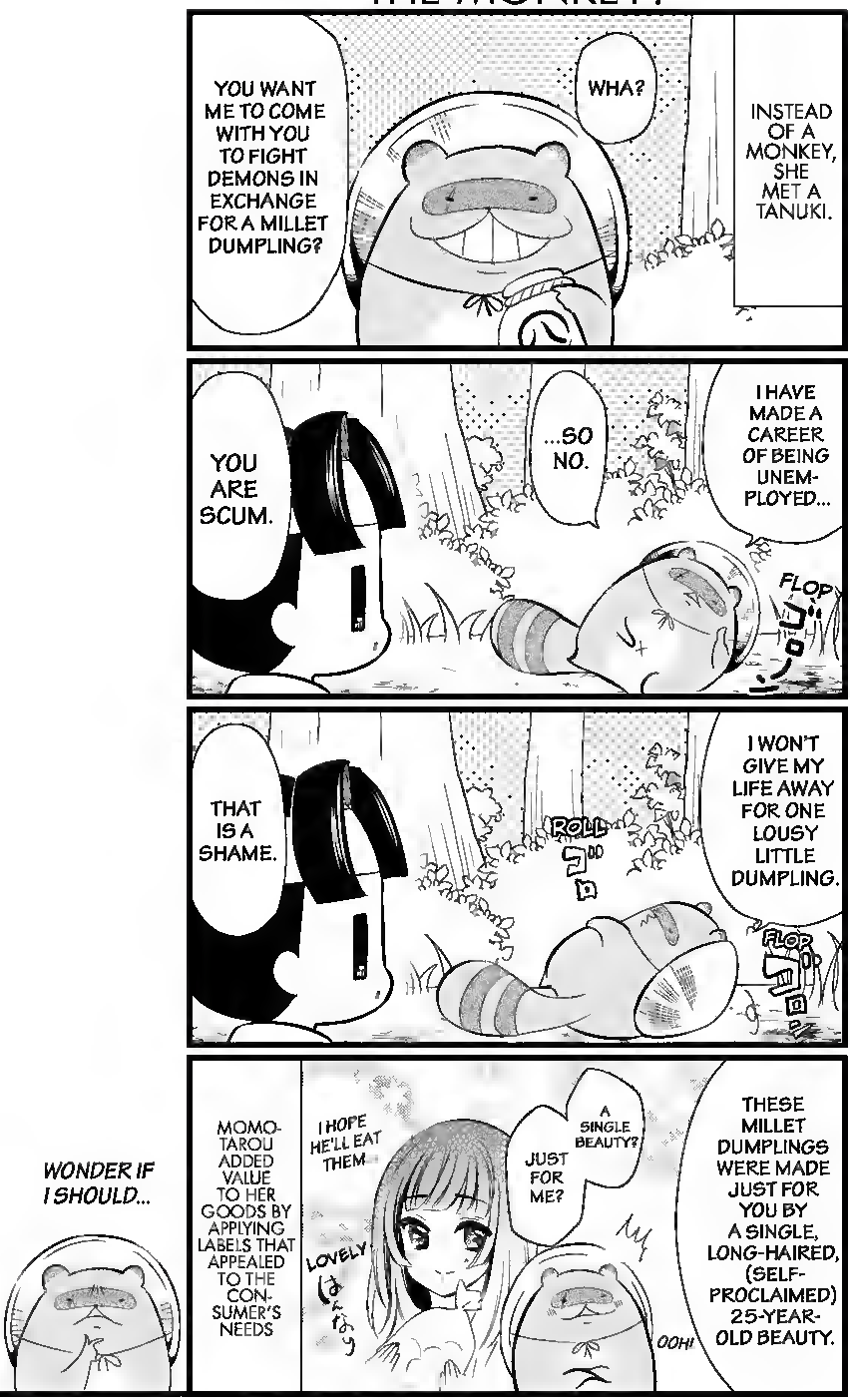




THE DOG THEN JOINED HER.

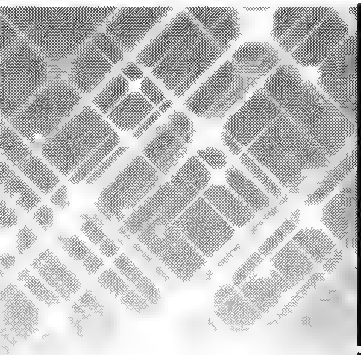



THE DOG TURNED OUT TO BE A STALKER.
I KNOW THAT YOU BOUGHT CUP NOODLES AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE LAST NIGHT STAYED IN ROOM 203 AT THE SE HOTEL, WENT TO BED AT 10 PM , CHECKED OUT AT 11 A.M., AND ARE EXPERIENCING A BIT OF SORENESS IN YOUR LEGS
YES...
BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN WATCHING YOU AROUND THE CLOCK.

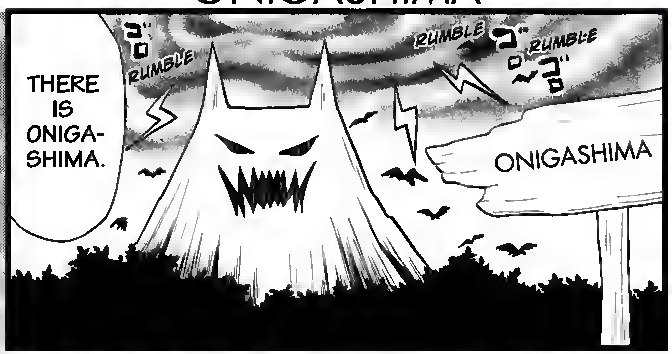

THE MONKEY?
INSTEAD OF A MONKEY, SHE MET A TANUKI.
WHA?
YOU WANT ME TO COME WITH YOU TO FIGHT DEMONS IN EXCHANGE FOR A MILLET DUMPLING?
I HAVE MADE A CAREER OF BEING UNEMPLOYED...
...SO NO.
YOU ARE SCUM.
FLOP
I WON'T GIVE MY LIFE AWAY FOR ONE LOUSY LITTLE DUMPLING.
THAT IS A SHAME.
ROLL
FLOP
THESE MILLET DUMPLINGS WERE MADE JUST FOR YOU BY A SINGLE, LONG-HAIRED, (SELF-PROCLAIMED) 25-YEAR-OLD BEAUTY.
A SINGLE BEAUTY?
JUST FOR ME?
OOH!
I HOPE HE'LL EAT THEM
LOVELY
MOMOTAROU ADDED VALUE TO HER GOODS BY APPLYING LABELS THAT APPEALED TO THE CONSUMER'S NEEDS
WONDER IF I SHOULD...

MY IDEAL WIFE!
IS FAIR-SKINNED, AND SPARES NO EFFORT.
LOVES FLOWERS AND CHILDREN,
THE BEAUTY IS FEMININE, GOOD AT HOUSE-WORK,
LITTLE GIRL, DOES THIS FAIR-SKINNED BEAUTY REALLY EXIST?
INDEED.
RAMEN TSUKEMEN AND GOOD-LOOKING MEN!
IT WAS NOT A LIE... NOT A LIE...
OKAY, OKAY, I'LL JOIN YOU, SO INTRODUCE ME TO THIS LOVELY LADY!
DO NOT TOUCH MY DARLING SO CASUALLY!

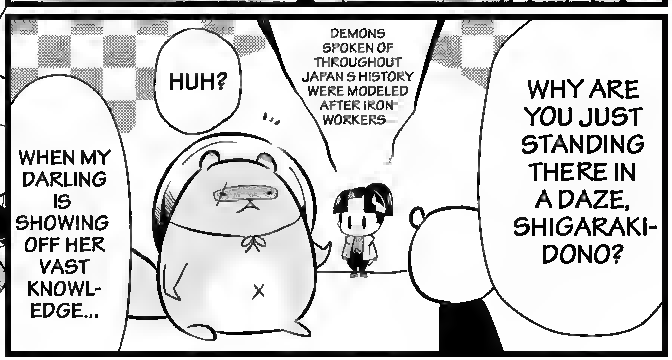
THE PHEASANT
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
HM?
MOMO-TAROU...
...I DON'T NEED A MILLET DUMPLING.
TA-DA
A TENGU... RATHER, A PHEASANT APPEARED.
IF A PHEASANT DOESN'T CRY, IT WILL NOT BE SHOT.
GIVE ME SOME OF YOUR LITTLE BOY FRIENDS' CONTACT INFOR-MATION!
JUST TEN LITTLE BOYS!
PTOO
TROT
FLOOSH
STAB
FLICK
MY DARLING DOES NOT HAVE FRIENDS, YOU INSOLENT FOOL!

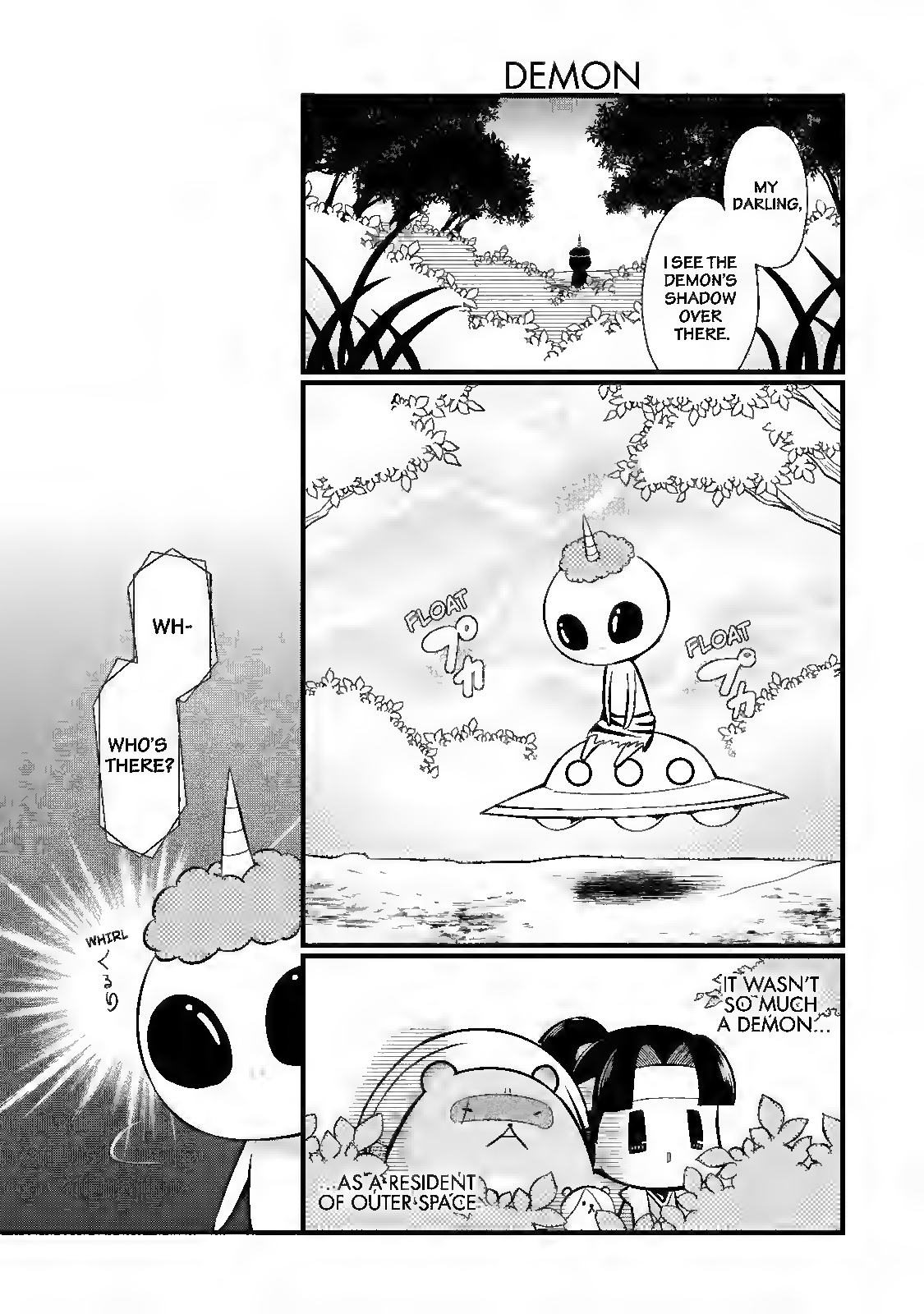


IT IS THE JOB OF US SERVANTS TO HIT THE "REALLY?" BUTTON.



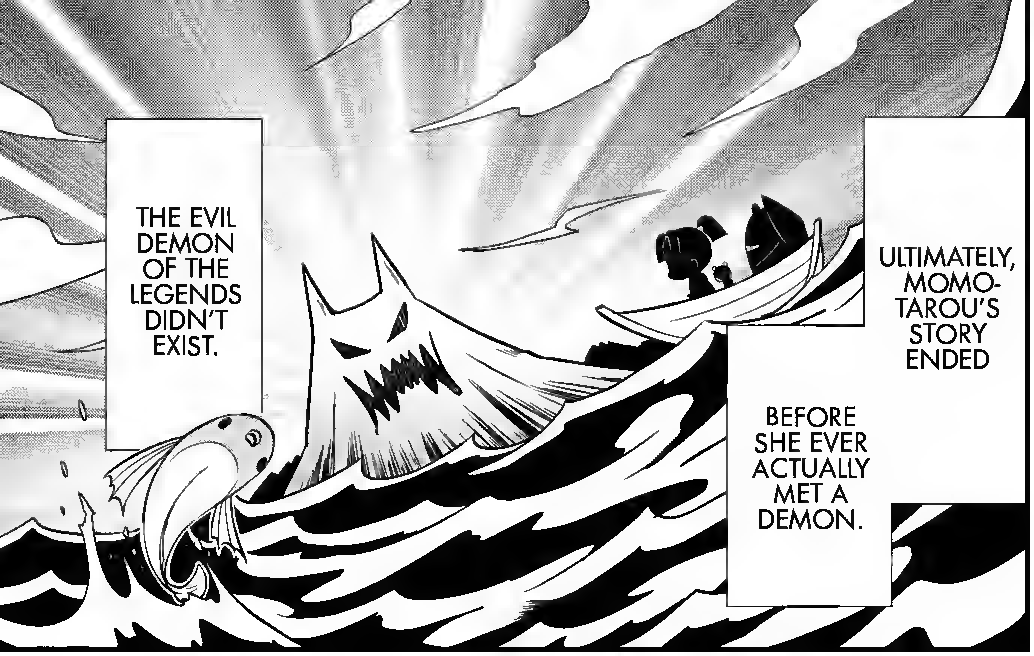
DID YOU KNOW?
THE DEMON IN THE MOMOTAROU STORY HAD A MODEL.
IT WAS MODELED AFTER A DEMON NAMED URA FROM A LEGEND PASSED DOWN IN THE KIBI PROVINCE IN SOUTHERN OKAYAMA PREFECTURE.
SOME SAY THAT URA CAME FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY AND INTRODUCED IRONWORKING TECHNIQUES TO KIBI.


WHEN MY DARLING IS SHOWING OFF HER VAST KNOWL-EDGE...
HUH?
DEMONS SPOKEN OF THROUGHOUT JAPAN'S HISTORY WERE MODELED AFTER IRON-WORKERS...
WHY ARE YOU JUST STANDING THERE IN A DAZE, SHIGARAKI-DONO?


DEMON
MY DARLING,
I SEE THE DEMON'S SHADOW OVER THERE.
FLOAT
FLOAT
WH-
WHO'S THERE?
WHIRL
IT WASN'T SO MUCH A DEMON...
...AS A RESIDENT OF OUTER SPACE

SELF-PROCLAIMED DEMON

THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE BIT OF TRUTH IN THAT SELF-INTRO-DUCTION.
I AM YAMAMOTO. AS YOU CAN SEE, I AM A DEMON BORN AND RAISED IN JAPAN.
...TO SLAY THE DEMON.
WE HAVE COME...
WHA...
SLAY?
I GUESS FANTASTICAL BEINGS LIKE DEMONS DO NOT EXIST AFTER ALL.
SHOCK
ガーン
THERE IS NOTHING HERE BUT AN ALIEN IN DISGUISE LET'S GO HOME, MY DARLING.
I WILL PUT THIS CHIP IN YOU IF YOU DON'T ADMIT I AM FROM JAPAN.
YOU ARE CLEARLY JAPANESE FROM EVERY ANGLE.


THE EVIL DEMON OF THE LEGENDS DIDN'T EXIST.
ULTIMATELY, MOMO-TAROU'S STORY ENDED
BEFORE SHE EVER ACTUALLY MET A DEMON.

BUT IF...
MOMO-TAROU HEADED BACK HOME WITH ALL HER NEW FRIENDS.

OLD...
I GUESS YOU'RE AN OLDER WOMAN EITHER WAY...
THAT DEMON MUST BE..

WHO THE HECK IS THIS RUDE OLD MAN?
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE A GIRL, BUT YOU'RE JUST A FEMININE SINGLE GUY. THAT'S HARSH..
IF A DEMON DOES EXIST IN THIS WORLD...
SHRIVEL
SHRIVEL
SHRIVEL

THAT DEMON MUST BE...
RRRR

English Digital Edition
Chapter 096

Gugure! Kokkurisan
繰繰れ!コックリさん
Midori Endo

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